

SENATE BILL 975

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By: **Senator Dyson**

Introduced and read first time: February 19, 2010

Assigned to: Rules

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study Erosion in Areas of Puritan Tiger Beetle Habitat**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force to Study Erosion in Areas of Puritan
4 Tiger Beetle Habitat; providing for the membership and duties of the Task
5 Force; requiring the Task Force to designate a chair from among its members;
6 providing for the staffing of the Task Force; prohibiting a member of the Task
7 Force from receiving certain compensation; authorizing a member of the Task
8 Force to receive reimbursement for certain expenses; requiring the Task Force
9 to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and certain
10 committees of the General Assembly by a certain date; providing for the
11 termination of this Act; and generally relating to the establishment of the Task
12 Force to Study Erosion in Areas of Puritan Tiger Beetle Habitat.

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
14 MARYLAND, That:

15 (a) There is a Task Force to Study Erosion in Areas of Puritan Tiger Beetle
16 Habitat.

17 (b) The Task Force consists of the following members:

18 (1) one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President
19 of the Senate;

20 (2) one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of
21 the House;

22 (3) the Secretary of Natural Resources, or the Secretary's designee;

23 (4) the Secretary of the Environment, or the Secretary's designee;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (5) the Secretary of Budget and Management, or the Secretary's
2 designee;

3 (6) a representative of the Calvert County Board of County
4 Commissioners, appointed by the President of the Board; and

5 (7) a representative of the Property Owners Association of the
6 Chesapeake Ranch Estates, Inc., appointed by the President of the Association.

7 (c) The Task Force shall designate the chair of the Task Force from among
8 its members.

9 (d) The Department of Legislative Services and the Department of Natural
10 Resources jointly shall provide staff for the Task Force.

11 (e) A member of the Task Force:

12 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Task Force; but

13 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard
14 State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

15 (f) The Task Force shall:

16 (1) examine issues related to and problems arising out of the erosion of
17 land in the State in areas that are Puritan tiger beetle habitat;

18 (2) determine the shore erosion protective works that are available
19 and would be the most effective to prevent erosion in these areas;

20 (3) examine any ecological, legal, or practical barriers to the
21 construction of any effective shore erosion protection works in these areas;

22 (4) examine the permitting processes for the construction of shore
23 erosion protective works and identify the appropriate federal, State, and local agencies
24 that are involved in the permitting process;

25 (5) solicit and hear testimony from the appropriate federal, State, and
26 local permitting agencies on the legal standards and processes involved in the
27 construction of shore erosion protective works in these areas;

28 (6) examine the habitat requirements and ecology of the Puritan tiger
29 beetle, especially with respect to:

30 (i) the susceptibility of the Puritan tiger beetle to impacts
31 caused by the construction of shore erosion protective works;

1 (ii) the suitability of different areas as habitat for the Puritan
2 tiger beetle; and

3 (iii) the ability of the Puritan tiger beetle to relocate to other
4 suitable habitat areas; and

5 (7) make findings and recommendations on the most feasible and
6 effective methods to prevent erosion in these areas.

7 (g) On or before December 31, 2010, the Task Force shall report its findings
8 and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State
9 Government Article, the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
10 Committee and the House Environmental Matters Committee.

11 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
12 June 1, 2010. It shall remain effective for a period of 7 months and, at the end of
13 December 31, 2010, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act
14 shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.